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Colorado State Board of Medical Examiners, Chicago.

Tuesday, February 5, separate meetings were held by the Federation of State Medical Boards of the United States and the Association of American Medical Colleges.

Nature states that on January 2 the Institution of Civil Engineers of Great Britain completed the hundredth year of its existence, having been established in 1818 at a meeting of eight engineers at the Kendal Coffee House in Fleet Street. At the meeting of the institution on January 8, before the discussion of papers, a statement commemorative of the founding of the institution was made, present conditions precluding a more formal celebration of the centenary.

THE United States Bureau of Mines has broadened the scope of its station at Urbana, Ill., to include work in coal and metal mining and the metallurgical industries of the Middle West. The present safety work will be continued and all work will be conducted under a cooperative agreement with the mining department of the University of Illinois. The bureau staff is under the superintendence of E. A. Holbrook, supervising mining engineer and metallurgist. Other members are W. B. Plank, in charge of mine safety, and F. K. Ovitz, chemist.

It is expected that the new Field Museum, Chicago, for which ground was broken in the summer of 1915, will be ready for the transfer of the contents of the old museum in Jackson Park by August, 1919. The new building is situated south of Twelfth Street and east of the Illinois Central Station. It is of Georgia marble, and, exclusive of the porticoes, will measure 756 feet long and 350 feet wide. It will cost \$5,000,000.

THE annual report of the Bristol Museum and Art Gallery, lately published, shows great activity, in spite of the war. During the year 261,594 persons visited the museum. An important new development was in connection with wounded soldiers. Some of the collections were temporarily placed in storage and space was made for a recreation center, including frequent lectures and demonstrations,

concerts, library facilities and light refreshments.

THE Minnesota state entomologist has issued an illustrated report of thirty-six pages on work upon the pine blister rust in Minnesota during 1917, in cooperation with the United States Bureau of Plant Industry. Details of inspection, scouting, infections and eradication are given. A limited number of copies are available for distribution. Applications should be mailed to State Entomologist, University Farm, St. Paul, Minnesota.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

BONDS and cash amounting to \$1,693,000 representing the trust fund established by Drs. Charles H. and William J. Mayo, Rochester, for carrying on medical research work at the University of Minnesota, have been turned over to the state treasurer.

By the will of the late Mrs. Charles H. Colburn, of Milford, Mass., a fund of \$100,000 is bequeathed to the Harvard Medical School for research in tuberculosis.

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY has received \$3,000 for research work in war problems from an anonymous donor and \$5,000 from Clarence Mackay for surgical research work.

W. H. BENDER, associate professor of agricultural education at the University of Minnesota, has resigned to go to the State Agricultural College, Ames, Iowa, as director of vocational education and special supervisor of vocational agriculture.

At the University of Iowa, Associate Professor R. P. Baker has been made acting head of the department of mathematics. Mr. R. E. Gleason and Mr. F. M. Weida have been appointed instructors in mathematics.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE THE ELECTION OF OFFICERS BY SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: In these days of strife for democratic ideals I would like to raise the question whether the method of election followed by many of our scientific societies is not in need of democratization. To begin at home I may say that I have been